



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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March 6, 2003

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: PD-1

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**PEARBLOSSOM HIGHWAY (STATE ROUTE 138) AT 165TH STREET EAST
INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Consider the Categorical Exemption for the project, approved by the Department of Transportation as the lead agency for the project on December 10, 2002, that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, and find that these actions reflect the independent judgment of the County.
2. Approve the enclosed Agreement between the State of California Department of Transportation and the County of Los Angeles, covering the installation of a traffic control signal on Pearblossom Highway (State Route 138) at 165th Street East. The Agreement provides for the State to perform the design and administer construction of the project. The State and the County will share the cost of the construction contract. The total project cost is currently estimated to be \$322,000 with the County's share being \$169,735, but not to exceed \$187,000.
3. Instruct the Chair of the Board to execute the Agreement.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Motorists on 165th Street East experience excessive delays upon entering or crossing Pearblossom Highway during periods of high traffic volumes. Therefore, the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the County propose to install a traffic signal at the subject intersection. Caltrans will be responsible for the design and construction administration of the project. The construction costs will be shared between Caltrans and the County.

The Agreement provides for the County to pay an initial deposit to Caltrans 15 days prior to the advertising date for its share of the work, estimated to be \$169,735, for the installation of the traffic signal. With contingencies, the County's share is not to exceed \$187,000. Upon completion of the work, Caltrans will perform a final accounting of the project costs and will bill the County for our jurisdictional share that exceeds the initial deposit amount. If the deposit amount exceeds the County's share of the final cost, then Caltrans will reimburse the County for the difference.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action meets the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence by enhancing the service provided to the public by our region's transportation network. By installing the traffic signal, users of State Route 138 benefit with the improved traffic circulation.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total project cost is currently estimated to be \$322,000. The County's share is estimated at \$169,735, but will not exceed \$187,000. Funding for this project is included in the County's Fiscal Year 2002-03 Road Fund Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Agreement has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel. Pursuant to Streets and Highways Code Section 130, the State and County are authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement for improvements to State highways within the County of Los Angeles.

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ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The California Environmental Quality Act requires public agency decision makers to document and consider the environmental implications of their actions. Pursuant to the Agreement, Caltrans is the lead agency responsible for certifying the environmental document in accordance with their procedures. Caltrans adopted its Categorical Exemption for the project on December 10, 2002.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The Agreement provides for Caltrans to accept control of and maintain the traffic signals upon completion of construction of the project. The County will be responsible for 50 percent of the future maintenance costs of the traffic signal. There will be no impact to the current services provided by the County.

CONCLUSION

Upon adoption of this letter by your Board and execution of the enclosed Agreement by the Chair, please return five originals and one copy of the Agreement to us along with the adopted Board letter. Once executed by Caltrans, we will return a fully executed original Agreement to the Executive Office of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel